

Chronicles from Africa

Robert & Esther Marsh, March - April 2016

South Africa & Democratic Republic of Congo - Church planting and radio ministry & Bible School

"Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives, all fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living just because He lives •••

How glorious this blessed truth "He LIVES", and how wonderful the privilege of proclaiming this "Gospel" to the world.

Our last visit with Esther's mother Wyla (Grings) was encouraging as she tried to talk, and responded to our faces. The Lord also gives us a fruitful time in witness with family visiting their elderly, as well as some "bonding" time for our children with grandma Wyla.

We praise the Lord for how Cherith, Jordan and Joshua have stepped into leading the children's programs on Friday afternoons. We have about 40 children. Joshua is doing well with his Bible College studies. We are thrilled that he can study and continue to serve the Lord here on the field with us. We are excited to also have five other members in this training program.

Joshua and Jordan will be taking a "mission trip" to the states for the summer. As a missionary family we were so blessed by the ministry of "Siloam Missionary Homes" for providing a home for us while away from ours. The boys have been offered a three month "Intern program" in serving at "Siloam Missionary Homes".

Robert would really appreciate your prayers for strength and discipline in his preaching and teaching ministries, both at regular church services (English) and our daily radio program (Lingala) to the Congo. Recently we were called upon to hold a funeral for a young Congolese couple who lost their baby in a car accident, the family and friends were surprised and comforted as they heard Robert conduct much of it in their home language. In South Africa we have a large population of refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Many of the men are "car guards" who watch the car in shopping lots. They do this for a small token. We have daily contact with them in our area and are able to hand out literature and witness to them in their own mother tongue of "Lingala".

This year as a church we are stepping out in faith and vision, to reach out in some new practical ways into our community this year. This will be in helping one of our young missionary girls in beginning a "Place of Safety" for abandoned babies in our area. We will also be starting a program, on Fridays, to reach out to "addicts" with a weekly discipleship program. We have two men and women who are being disciple for this ministry.

We are also praying the Lord will allow us to raise the funds to add some Sunday school classrooms and also just repair and update our facilities in order to be equipped for these ministries. We have had a gift towards this already and are looking forward to moving ahead. We would ask that you would pray the Lord to "grow" our own members in serving in these ministries and that He would bring those to us whom we can draw to Him

and see lives changed for His glory.

We had the privilege to go to family camp. I (Robert) had the honor of preaching, Esther, taught the ladies class, and the three older children gave their testimonies to the teens. We covet your prayers that our hearts would be strengthened for the work He gives us.

Having shared all God is doing on our side, we want to thank the Lord for faithful prayer warriors like you who bring us before the throne. Sometimes •••• it is the one thing that keeps us going on. We appreciate your prayers for the Lords help in our own family life to always remain faithful in teaching, relying upon and practicing the Word of God faithfully.

- Pray for music ministries. Thursdays, is music training day. Esther is teaching piano to seven students. I have the privilege of teaching guitar to a fellow missionary •
- Children's outreach on Fridays; 3-5pm ~Junior Youth, 7-9pm Senior youth.
- Pray for our Young Adults who are moving on in studies and work opportunities to be faithful to the Lord and His call on their lives.
- Pray for the direction and ministries that God wants us to expand into this new year, and for the Lord to raise up leaders in the areas we have need. (House of safety for abandoned babies and the reaching out to addicts in our area).
- Ongoing radio ministry to Congo.
- Joshua and Jordan in the States from 31 May - 31 August 2016. Their safety and travels.

Maranatha ••••
The Marsh Family